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Here's betting that "Boston's bad boy" goes scot-free as far as congressional punishment is concerned.

The hint of the construction of a large summer hotel in Randolph is pleasing to people throughout the whole state.

It has been a long time since the Rutland army has scored, or even made a base hit. Everything has been a sacrifice thus far.

The explosion in one munitions plant was a catastrophe; but an explosion in a second munitions plant not far away during the next 24 hours was a crime.

Although not engaged in war, the United States navy seems to be quite capable of losing vessels, two now having their noses stuck in the mud off the Pacific coast. It is costly maneuvering.

Washington dispatches tell of the belief in official circles in that city that "at least one dynasty" will have to fall before the completion of the present war. That one will probably be the dynasty of Mars.

The removal from the German consular service in the United States of Bopp and Von Schack might have saved the service a good deal of embarrassment had the act been done about two years and six months ago.

It was natural that the entente's reply to President Wilson's peace note would arouse a storm of fury in Germany because of the unbending demands asked by the entente in any peace conference that might be called together within the next few months. The storm broke immediately the reply was published in Germany, and the press of the nation showed the way to the people of the nation. The same spirit was shown in some of the entente nations when President Wilson's first move for peace was made known, but since then the anger in those nations has largely subsided. Therefore, it may be expected that on second consideration Germany will view the entente's demands more calmly.

The five and one-half millions increase in value of 10 staple crops in Vermont during the past calendar year makes for a largely increased prosperity for the state. Incidentally, it furnishes a timely object lesson to those outside of the state who are looking for opportunities in the line of agriculture. In a number of products Vermont was well to the front in the yield per acre, notably in corn, rye, spring wheat, tobacco and apples, while in other products like oats, potatoes, barley, buckwheat, hay, etc., the state was somewhat better than the average. It must be borne in mind, too, that in this activity Vermont is competing with many states which are comparatively young, the soil of which has been worked not more than half as many years as Vermont's.

The full extent of the beneficence of Joseph Battell to Middlebury college is revealed in the annual report just issued by President Thomas of that institution; and the general public is very much surprised at the large amount of property set at the disposal of the college. The total amount is slightly over \$400,000, of which a very large percentage is in real estate, much of it producing good revenue because located in the village of Middlebury, where the returns are considered good. President Thomas characterizes the bequests as "one of the most remarkable and generous ever made for benevolent purposes in Vermont." It is probably the largest single bequest ever made in Vermont for any purpose, and Middlebury college is to be congratulated on being the beneficiary.

The British army under General Haig is following the plan so publicly announced a few months ago, to the effect, that despite the unfavorable weather conditions of the winter months there would be no let-up in the harassing of the Germans. From day to day there come reports of scattered engagements, either trench raiding or actual fighting in force; and the Germans are nearly always on the defensive in these movements. The sum total of the results seems to be that the British are making some slight gains in ground on the Somme front; but those gains are inconsequential as compared with the damage to the morale of the defending army. To be constantly pestered and kept on the qui vive in anticipation of attack by a superior force gets on the nerves of the best soldiery. These scattered movements by General Haig's men, too, preserve something more far-reaching just as soon as the weather permits.

The vagaries of a New England winter were never more forcibly demonstrated than during the past three days, when atmospheric conditions changed from the intensely cold to the stage of near-spring and then back again into real winter. On Saturday morning the thermometer registered around 15 degrees below zero; the following morning the thermometer told the tale of 40 above zero; and the sun was pouring down as in mid-April; this morning the mercury took another

hasty drop and reached a point only 10 degrees above the zero station. Thus from Saturday morning to Monday morning the mercury had raced over a course of 85 degrees—55 in the upward climb and 30 more in the descent toward the bulb. To-day's weather was wholly seasonable as we have been taught to expect it in mid-January—clear, sparkling and bracing—the time when the blood is sent coursing through the body with the vigor of outdoor exercise.

THE FARM LOAN ACT.

On another page of to-day's issue will be found the first article of a series to be printed during the present week on the various phases of the federal farm loan act recently passed by Congress. The articles are written by Frank R. Wilson of the federal loan bureau in Washington, D. C., and are, therefore, authoritative; the statements therein contained may be taken for their face value and relied upon accordingly. The federal farm loan act was enacted by Congress with a view to helping the farmers in the development of their property, and it is to them that the articles will directly appeal. Nevertheless there is much of interest in the facts set forth by Mr. Wilson and no doubt the general readers of The Times will acquire valuable information about the great new department of the federal government. Whether prospective borrowers under the provisions of the system or not, all have an indirect concern in the working-out of the system because of the splendid purpose back of the scheme.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Allies' Answer.

It is ample answer that the entente allies have given to President Wilson's inquiry regarding their aims in war and their terms of peace. While the greater part of it is but a recapitulation of the main objects and conditions which were well within public knowledge, there are these definite and important additions: the liberations of Italians, of Slavs, of Roumanians and of Slovaks from foreign domination—meaning that of Austria-Hungary; and the expulsion of Turkish government from Europe. Still more important, perhaps, is the distinct statement that besides the restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro, there must be payment of "the indemnities which are due them."

There is nothing in the note to show that the great powers of the entente alliance seek any material gain for themselves, either financial or territorial. Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro and the lands of Italians, Slavs, Roumanians and Slovaks are to be restored to their own peoples; and it is to the re-established kingdoms of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro that the indemnities are to be paid. The very name of "indemnities" now formally introduced by the allies will send a shiver of dismay through the central empires. It was Germany that spoke first of indemnities. The war was not then very old, the great British army of to-day was not in existence, the German artillery was proving its superiority in Russia as it had done in Belgium and France, and the war lord and his government were doubtless sincere in telling the German people that they might with perfect security subscribe to war loans because these would be repaid by indemnities exacted from the enemy. This was one of the methods of nourishing the notion that Germany was fighting in self-defense and would be in a position to command golden salvage for her wounds.

But the German government miscalculated. It is not the France of 1870, nor the Russia of 1904, nor the British of 1914 that Germany and her auxiliaries have to reckon with now. The entente alliance has developed such strength that the German hope of being able to impose indemnities has been extinguished. For a considerable time the word "indemnity" has not been heard from official lips in Germany. Now the people will be startlingly reminded of it—it to the American president—and will they be allowed to read the allies' note surely begin to understand that they may see as little of an ultimate German triumph as they saw of the swift and sweeping victory which was promised them at the crossing of the Belgian frontier.

If the allies win and indemnities are imposed, how is the impoverished empire to pay? That question was not asked of France when Germany won. Amiens and other French cities have not yet completed repayment of the loans they had to contract for indemnities to Germany. Now the German cities are threatened with a similar experience—which, however, will be milder than the present German methods of exaction in Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro and Poland. The threat will probably make the German emperor fight all the more desperately for a time. His saddling of the country with an indemnity might almost make him doubt his right divine to reign.—Boston Herald.

WEST BERLIN

The ladies' aid will give a corn chowder supper in their hall next Friday evening from 6 to 8 o'clock. Adults, 15c; children under 12 years, 10c.

George A. Snow from Sharon visited friends in this place Sunday.

Mrs. Charles Patterson, accompanied by Marcia Libbey, was in Northfield last Thursday.

Mrs. Ellen Sanders, who has been ill for some time, is now reported better.

NEW ENGLAND SPENT \$15,435,766 FOR ROADS

Massachusetts Led in Expenditure, with Rhode Island Last and Vermont Next to the Last Although Laying Out More Than Double What Rhode Island Did.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Expenditures for road improvements in the New England states in 1914 showed increases over such expenditures in 1904 ranging from 10 per cent in Rhode Island to nearly 205 per cent in Massachusetts, according to road statistics for the section, just published by the office of public roads and rural engineering, of the U. S. department of agriculture, in department bulletin No. 388. The total for 1914 was \$15,435,766.01, and for 1904 \$7,383,763.70. Of the expenditures in 1914, Massachusetts spent more than \$6,000,000 and Connecticut over \$3,600,000. The approximate expenditures for the remaining states were: Maine, \$2,642,000; New Hampshire, \$1,590,000; Vermont, \$1,024,000; and Rhode Island, \$446,599.

The surfaced roads of the six states had an aggregate length of 18,036.78 miles on Jan. 1, 1915. This was 20.80 per cent of the total road mileage, which was 86,718. While the percentage of improved roads is a trifle less than that given in the statistics gathered in 1909, this merely indicates that the present statistics are more nearly accurate and not that there has been any lack of growth in the road systems of the section.

The statistics show that nearly 10 per cent of the improved roads in New England are bituminous macadam, 12 per cent macadam, 23 per cent concrete and .01 per cent brick. Approximately 60 per cent of the improved highway is surfaced with gravel. Of the six states, Massachusetts has the greatest percentage of surfaced roads on Jan. 1, 1915—45.53 per cent. Nearly 15 per cent of this surfaced mileage was bituminous macadam. This was approximately nine times the mileage of bituminous macadam in New Hampshire, the state having the next greatest of this type of road.

Road and bridge bonds to the amount of \$20,565,522.82 were outstanding in the New England states Jan. 1, 1915. Of these, \$12,000,000 of town bonds in Massachusetts were state obligations. All the New England states now have highway departments and apply state funds to the aid of road improvement, the report shows. The report is the second of five reports on public road mileages and revenues in 1914, covering the various sections of the United States.

MONTPELIER

Deaths of Mrs. Charles H. Shipman and William Henry Greene.

The death of Mrs. Charles H. Shipman, wife of a prominent Montpelier merchant, occurred early yesterday morning at her home, 1 Court street, after an illness of about two weeks with heart trouble and complications. Ellen Kieth was born in Montpelier, Sept. 25, 1852, the daughter of Alonzo T. and Laura Kieth, and had always resided in this city, being married 42 years ago to Mr. Shipman by Rev. William Lord. Two daughters were born to them, both of whom survive. Mrs. Charles Benjamin and Miss Florence Shipman, both of this city. Two brothers also survive, William C. Kieth of Salem, Mass., and Fred A. of Boston. The deceased was a granddaughter of Judge Rowell R. Kieth, and of General Shalab B. Flint, prominent citizens of Montpelier in the early days of the town. Mrs. Shipman was active as a reader in the Christian Science church and was a student of Mary Baker Eddy in one of her last classes. She belonged to the Marquette de Lafayette chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and was ex-vice-president. The funeral will be held at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon from the house with burial at Green Mount cemetery. It is the request of the family that there be no flowers.

William Henry Greene died this morning at 5 o'clock of pneumonia, having been ill since last Monday. He was born in Derby Sept. 14, 1862, the son of Tyler and Emily (Moulton) Greene, and he came to Montpelier 30 years ago. For ten years he was employed by the Colton Manufacturing company, then was engaged as truckman and more recently was driver for Bailey and Taft. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias. He leaves his wife and two children, Mrs. Harry White and William Henry Greene, jr., both of Montpelier; also three sisters, Mrs. M. D. Sturtevant of Portsmouth, N. H., Mrs. Luella McDonald and Mrs. George Silway, both of Montpelier. The funeral will be held at his late home, 61 Elm street, Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and interment will be in Green Mount cemetery.

There will be three horse races on the ice at the Winooski river course Thursday afternoon, and an effort will be made to break the new record set up for the half-mile course by Mollie B. last Saturday afternoon. The new record is 31 seconds for the quarter mile.

On Tuesday evening, Gamaliel Washburn Lodge of Perfection will hold a special communication when Deputy Henry R. Ballou of Chester and Grand Master H. H. Ross of Burlington will be present.

Bert Pratt, a Worcester branch farmer and an employee of the Bailey & Taft company as a teamster, was arrested Sunday on charge of stealing from the company's grain mill on Main street two bags of grain. Pratt is said to have confessed the theft to the police and will be arraigned in city court this afternoon. The grain was appropriated late Saturday night and the police with the aid of the snow storm were able to trace the tracks of the sled from the storehouse door to the Pratt farm. A search was made at the Pratt house Sunday forenoon and two bags of grain were brought to the police station.

Mrs. Don Fellows, daughter of George N. White of Main street, left this morning for Bridgeport, Conn., to join her husband, who is employed there.

Mrs. J. F. Doyle, who has been visiting relatives in the city for several weeks, plans to leave to-morrow for New York City to join her husband. They will leave the last of the month for Los Angeles, Cal., to reside.



To-day our special advertisement is for the boys—overcoats, mackinaws, sweaters.

The overcoats are double-breasted, patch pockets, cut full and roomy, some with velvet collars, cheerful grays and dark mixtures.

Mackinaws—all the new models in striking patterns—and excellent fabrics, \$5 to \$10.

Sweaters—in several different styles—and colors, \$1.25 to \$5.

Everything for boys' wear, as well as for men's.

Beginning to-day, Monday, 22 boys' and youths' overcoats automatically reduced 25c each day until the price reaches \$3 each.

Watch our window.

F. H. Rogers & Company

Clothing and Furnishings

Shoes—Rubbers

Many good bargains in shoes and rubbers at the Walk-Over Store.

Mostly broken lots, but if you can find your size you can save a nice little sum.

Everyone ought to take advantage of this. You have got to pay more for shoes and rubbers.

Come in to-day.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop

170 No. Main St.

JINGLES AND JESTS

Agreed with Her.

"Johnny," said his teacher, "if coal is selling at \$6 a ton and you pay your dealer \$24 how many tons will he bring you?"

"A little over three tons," ma'am," said Johnny promptly.

"Why, Johnny, that isn't right," said the teacher.

"No, ma'am, I know it ain't," said Johnny, "but they all do it."

His Prayer in Trouble.

Dear God, I need You awful bad. I don't know what to do. My papa's cross, my mamma's sick. I ain't no fren' but You. Them careless angels went and brung 'Stid of the boy I lost. A weenchy, teenchy, baby girl; I don't see how they dast!

And, God, I wish You'd take her back. She's just as good as new; Won't no one know she's second hand. But 'cep'tin' me and You. An' pick a boy, dear God Yourself. The nicest in Your fold; But please don't choose him quite so young. I'd like him five years old.

—S. M. Talbot.

Who Was Surprised.

"We have the surprise beautifully planned," said young Mrs. Westerleigh to the guests, "and Frank doesn't suspect a thing. I think he has even forgotten that to-day's his birthday. He got home from the office at about 7 o'clock. Then he always goes upstairs to take off his coat and put on his smoking jacket for the evening. When he is upstairs I will call out suddenly. 'Oh, Frank, come downstairs—be quick! The gas is escaping.' Then he will rush down here and find the crowd of friends waiting for him."

It went exactly as planned. Westerleigh came home at the regular hour and went directly upstairs. The hidden guests held their breath while Mrs. Westerleigh called out excitedly. "Oh, Frank, come down quick. The gas is escaping in the parlor."

Every light had been turned out, and the parlor was in perfect darkness. There was a rapid rush of feet down the stair way, then a voice said, "I don't smell any gas."

"Better light the jet," Mrs. Westerleigh suggested tremulously. "Here's a match."

The match was struck, and suddenly the room was flooded with light. "Everybody screamed. The hostess faintly. For there in the corner of the room stood Westerleigh, attired only in a natty union suit, with a fresh pair of trousers carried over his arm."

FOUR WOMEN STRIKERS

By M. QUAD

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After due mature deliberation Mrs. Henry Skaggs sent her son, Sammy, with three written notes to three wives in the neighborhood—Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. White and Mrs. Davis. They were asked to call at her house at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to help bring about a social revolution for the benefit of the female sex all over the world.

When the hour arrived the three women also arrived. They were very busy women, but anything that promised to benefit the sex aroused their sense of duty.

"What I have to say is this," began Mrs. Skaggs as she took the floor and cleared her voice. "The men are on a strike east, west, north and south. Some are striking for higher wages, but most of them want eight hours' work a day. Their claim is that no man can work more than eight hours a day and do his best and great numbers of them are completely tired out when the eight hours have expired."

"Have they given a thought to us women amid all this turmoil and confusion? Not a thought—not even one. We arise at 6 o'clock in the morning and are through with our housework about 9 in the evening. That makes fifteen hours' work for us, and most of the time we are on our feet. Poor men! He can't work more than eight hours a day without being tuckered out, and he thinks we can work fifteen without having the least cause for complaint. So it has always been and always will be unless we go at it and raise a revolution."

"Let us raise one!" was shouted in chorus.

"That's what I wanted to see you about, and I'm so glad you agree with me. We shall raise a revolution. We will raise it right here and now! From this village it will spread all over the known world, and if our sex in Eskimo land as well as at home do not bless us they deserve to be slaves forever."

So thought Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. White, and the four women then and there entered into a conspiracy and perfected the details. Each one pledged herself to die rather than surrender, and each went home with a grim look on her face.

What befell Mrs. Skaggs befell the others. When her husband came home that evening she met him with a query:

"Henry, you are on a strike for eight hours a day?"

"Yes, dear," was the reply.

"Well, I want to say to you that, beginning Wednesday morning, I shall go on a strike myself. If you feel that you can't work more than eight hours a day I feel that I can't either. I work almost double that now and have worked so ever since we were married, and it's no wonder I look like an old woman at my age of thirty-eight. Have you any reasons to advance why I should not strike?"

"Not a single reason," he replied when she expected him to advance a dozen or more. "Your work is hard and long, and if you can manage to make it easier I shall do all I can to encourage you."

Mrs. Skaggs was much surprised and put out by the attitude of her husband, but she was grimly determined to carry out the conspiracy. When Wednesday morning came she said to her husband across the breakfast table:

"Henry, this is the day."

"Yes, this is the day," he quietly replied.

"But you will be home to lunch, as usual. But after that is cleared away the strike begins."

Soon after 2 o'clock and just as Mrs. Skaggs was getting interested in a book Mrs. Jinks, a colored woman of very ample proportions, entered the house. She was chasing the three Skaggs children before her, and as she took off her hat and made herself at home she said to their mother:

"Dose chill'en need to have dar ears cuffed, an' I'll make a great improvement in less dan a week. Dls foash needs sweepin', an' I'll tackle dat fust."

"And who on earth are you?" demanded the surprised Mrs. Skaggs as she closed her book and stood up.

"Why, I's Mrs. Jinks, of co'se," was the reply.

"But I didn't send for you."

"Of co'se not, but your husband cum fur me an' said I was to be de second relief. I cums on at 2 o'clock an' leaves at 10. Dat makes my eight hours, an' durin' my time here don't you have too much to say about things. I knows all about runnin' a house an' don't need no bossin'."

"Now, then, Mrs. Jinks, or whatever your name is, you take yourself right out of here or I'll have a constable take you. You are not wanted here, and it's singular that my husband sent you."

"But you is all tired out wid your work an' am strikin' fur eight hours," was the reply.

"And I'll be striking you if you don't move on. When it is time to get supper for my husband I shall do so."

When Mrs. Skaggs came home he found a better supper than usual prepared for him, and his wife had slicked up a little in matters of dress. All he said as he took his accustomed seat was:

"I see, dear, that you have won your strike, and I am glad of it."

Mrs. Skaggs looked at him indignantly and reproachfully and made no reply. She had gone back to fifteen hours a day.

Pauline Frederick in "The Woman in the Case," Park Theatre to-night—adv.

Our Board of Directors

is composed of conservative business men. This, together with the fact that we have a capital and surplus of \$135,595.05, gives assurance of security and wise administration of the affairs of this bank.

Would be pleased to have YOU open an account with us.

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WATERBURY

A new lease of 10 years from the government of the Wheeler store as the quarters of the postoffice has warranted S. C. Wheeler in fitting up the office in the most approved and up-to-date furnishings. The appearance from the entrance gives one the impression of a city office, with the keyless boxes and all the equipment which makes for rapid handling of the mails. The outfit was placed by a representative of the Bourn, Hadley & Co. of Templeton, Mass.

Paul Swasey, who is attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, taking a course in architecture, has recently won a medal and first honorable mention for his sketches and designs for a library. Mr. Swasey graduated from the local high school in 1914 and after teaching one year entered the University of Vermont, where he took his freshman year. He is now doing second-year work at the M. I. T. His early training in drawing was under Miss Badger in the grades of the Barre public schools. His taste for the work at that time and the encouragement received in his work has helped him to choose the course which he is now taking. Mr. Swasey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Swasey.

Officers of the Ezra Stetson corps, recently installed by Mrs. Ethel Ayers, past president of the Woman's Relief corps, are: President, Mrs. Mary Greene; senior vice-president, Mrs. Nellie Morse; junior vice-president, Mrs. Ethel Ayers; secretary, Mrs. Adda Anderson; treasurer, Mrs. Kathie Brown; chaplain, Mrs. Mary Davis; conductress, Mrs. Gertrude Gilman; guide, Mrs. Lovinia Parcher; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Flora Freeman; press correspondent, Mrs. Nora Hodge; musician, Mrs. Ethel Woodward; assistant conductress, Mrs. Abbie Griffith; color bearers, first Mrs. Mary Morway, second Mrs. Ethel Freeman, third Mrs. Martha Woodward, fourth Mrs. Annie Walts. Dinner was served following the installation. The officers of Ezra Stetson post are practically the same as last year.

A large number gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. B. Perry Friday evening to observe gentlemen's night of the Hyattia club. The committee in charge of this delightful affair were Mrs. Margaret Perry, Mrs. Imogene Wheeler, Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Wood, Miss Seabury

and Mrs. Bidwell. Most of those receiving were costumed as policemen and the imposing signs about the room showed that something unusual was to take place. The mock trial which followed was in the hands of Judge Graves, Lawyer Adams and Sheriff Eaton. The sentence for a proposal and the mock wedding which followed as performed by the Rt. Rev. Perry was impressive and the wedding march was played on the victrola. The refreshments, which were of many kinds, had among them two wedding cakes cut by the bride and assistants. The decorations, too, indicated wedding festivities. All in all, a delightful evening was passed. The catering was in charge of Mrs. Herbert Johnson.

Dr. and Mrs. H. D. Bone and Herman Bone, jr., of Gardner, Mass., are guests of Supt. and Mrs. W. L. Wasson at the Vermont state hospital. Dr. Bone was formerly on the hospital staff.

Stock-taking sale at Abbott's.



Look! Resinol has cleared that awful skin-eruption away

The moment that Resinol Ointment touches itching skin the itching usually stops and healing begins. That is why doctors have prescribed it so successfully for over 20 years in even the severest cases of eczema, ringworm, rashes, and many other tormenting, disfiguring skin diseases. Aided by warm baths with Resinol Soap, Resinol Ointment makes a sick skin or scalp healthy, quickly, easily and at little cost.

Resinol Ointment and Resinol Soap also greatly help to clear away pimples and dandruff. Sold by all druggists. Men with tender faces welcome Resinol Shaving Stick.

The Big Continues We're Ready Don't You Shoe Sale This Week for You Miss It

Mr. Fitts' High-Grade Shoes Must Move

Over 3,000 pairs of Women's High-Grade Shoes must be disposed of this week. If prices, cut to the quick, will vacate our shelves—they will be emptied quickly.

Come and see what's doing here now. We'll not urge you to buy. The bargains we are offering will do that.

700 pairs Women's \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50 La France Shoes, all styles and leathers; Sale Price, per pair, \$3.50

360 pairs Women's La France and other make Shoes, \$3.50 and \$4.00 grades; our low Sale Price, pair, \$2.98

200 pairs Children's Shoes, \$1.25 to \$1.50 value, on our bargain table; our low Sale Price, per pair, \$0.89c

Over 400 pairs of Infants' Soft Sole Shoes, all colors, 65c to 85c value; our low Sale Price, per pair, \$0.39c

500 pairs of Women's Rubbers, per pair, \$0.49c and 59c

230 pairs of Children's and Women's Rubbers, Sale Price, per pair, \$0.45c and 47c

WE'RE SCATTERING OUR PROFITS AMONG OUR PATRONS—COME AND GET YOUR SHARE

Shea's Shoe Store